



News is
a FRS-Holland publication

FRS NEWS

FRS News is a free & irregular publication aimed at the listeners of the Free Radio Service Holland, an independent short wave free radio station. It usually comes out prior to or just after a broadcast..

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome along in the **Autumn 2009** FRS Newsletter edition! It's some 9 months ago since the previous edition #33 was published. All mail from December 25th/26th/28th 2008 has been replied to. BTW, if you are interested in catching **previous editions**, please send an e-mail and we'll provide you with the necessary details. Elsewhere you will find a potted history covering the story of the FRS Newsletter and FRS News. Any response to this edition is welcome. And perhaps you might have an idea how to make it even better. You can contact us via POBox 2702 or of course the easiest & fastest way: via e-mail <frs@frsholland.nl> or alternatively <frs.holland@hccnet.nl>. Don't hesitate...just do it !!! In this edition we are looking back at the December 2008 festive broadcasts, we have the Fact File column flashing back to December 1988 & 1998, letters & e-mails in Mailbox 2702, and we look at the upcoming FRS test broadcasts. Enough stuff to keep you quiet for some time....enjoy it!

FRS-Holland NEWS by Peter V.

Once again we have to welcome a number of *new listeners* and in addition of course many faithful FRS friends. *Thank to all of you* for the (snail)(e)mail(s) we received regarding FRS-Holland's trms back in December 2008.

FRS Activities

Sun December 28th 2008 marked the second 2008 FRS-Holland activity following a previous November broadcast. Programmes were aired on 6220 & 6400 between 09.00– 14.00 CET. On 6400 the complete schedule was repeated during afternoon & part of the evening. During the morning hours 6400 wasv running in parallel with 3945. In

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Next edition will be out
next Winter 2009/ 2010.

the afternoon between 13.30- 14.30 UTC the DX Show was aired with no less than 100 kW on 9770 kHz/ 31 mb. Propagation was fair to good that day and we received a total of almost 90 letters/ mails. Unfortunately the 9770 part was aired one hour to early due to a misunderstanding. As a result several DXers missed that hour as they tuned in one hour too late... Reports were received from as far away as Japan and Israel (6400!!). All in all

response really was overwhelming. Really encouraging! Pxs that day included a 2008 Free Radio review by Jan van Dijk, a listener's competition, flashbacks to December 1988 & 1998 in FRS Magazine. No less than 60 minutes of DX News, Mike Anderson's DX Welle presented in German, FRS Golden Show prsented by Paul Graham and a 15 min. Joop ter Zee tribute.

At the moment you read this, we are preparing a few tests within the 41 mb. Officially it's the 39 mb as we use freqs which are higher than the usual 41 mb ones. We aim to do tests on two successive October Sundays. On each Sunday we will test during two blocks of two hours, one in the morning 08.00-10.00 UTC/10.00-12.00 CEST and one in the afternoon 12.00-14.00 UTC/ 14.00-16.00 CEST. During each block we will switch freq after one hour. We are understandably curious receiving reception reports. The 41mb tests are seriously aimed at using 41 (39) metres more often in future. This frequency range is much *less overcrowded* compared

with 48 metres and signals are *more stable*, *suffer less from cracks and noises* and *cover greater distances*. The introduction of these tests does not mean FRS will give up 6220/ 48 mb transmissions but will hopefully result in regular future broadcasts on both 48 & 41 metres.

Latest News !!

Sunday October 4th & October 11th FRS-Holland will be testing according to the afore mentioned schedule. If you have any chance to tune our way, please do so! We are looking forward to receive your reception report. We are very curious about differences between morning and afternoon and the used frequencies. One freq will be 7600 kHz, the other one possibly within the 7400-7500 kHz range.

Free Radio Service Holland:

"A Balance between Music & Information joined to one Format.

The FRS Concept sounds different, just a bit different."

FACT FILE *Flashing back to December 1988 & December 1998*

Newsfacts December 1988

December 1 Carlos Salinas de Gortari takes office as President of Mexico.

December 2 Benazir Bhutto is sworn in as Prime Minister of Pakistan, becoming the first woman to head the government of an Islam dominated state. **December 2** A cyclone in Bangladesh leaves 5 million homeless and thousands dead. **December 7** In Armenia an earthquake 6.9 on the Richter scale kills nearly 25,000, injures 15,000 and leaves 400,000 homeless.

December 7 Estonian becomes the official language of Estonia. **December 9** The last Dodge Aries and Plymouth Reliant roll off the assembly line in a Chrysler factory. **December 12** The London Clapham Junction rail crash kills 35 and injures 132. **December 21** Pan Am Flight 103 is blown up over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing a total of 270 people. Those responsible are believed to be of either Iranian or Libyan origin.

Music News December 1988

Dec. 15th 1988 Stones member Keith Richards does a solo performance in the Hollywood Palladium. Illegal recordings are being published on a double album called *A Stone Alone*. Three years later Virgin Records publish a legal version entitled *Keith Richards live at the Hollywood Palladium*. On the same day soul legend James Brown is sentenced to 6 years imprisonment for being on the run from the police. They chase him in two US states. He is locked up in the State Park Prison in Columbia, South Carolina and released in Febr. 1991 for good behaviour. Paul Jeffreys, playing the bass guitar in Cockney Rebel, sadly dies in an air crash **December 21st 1988**. He is one of the 270 people killed at the Pan Am Flight 103 Lockerbie disaster. **December 22nd 1988** the famous UK popband The Smith do their final live performance in the Wolverhampton Civic Hall.

Radio News December 1988

Generator problems on the Ross Revenge force Radio 819 & Caroline to go off the air. The FCC wants RNYI to apply for an AM license. The Communicator is still owned by Ray Anderson anchored on a mudbank near a scrapyard at Mistley. A new financier wants to invest money in the Radio Nova satellite venture. Radio Fax

Newsfacts December 1998

December 1 Exxon announces a US\$73.7 billion deal to buy Mobil, thus creating Exxon_Mobil, the second largest company on the planet by revenue. **December 6** Hugo Chávez, former member of the Venezuelan military and politician, is elected President of Venezuela. **December 11** Iraq disarmament crisis: Iraq announces that United Nations weapons inspections will no longer take place on Friday, the Muslim day of rest. Iraq also refuses to provide test data from the production of missiles and engines. **December 16-19** Iraq disarmament crisis: U.S. President Bill Clinton orders American and British airstrikes on Iraq. UNS-COM withdraws all weapons inspectors from Iraq. **December 19** Lewinsky scandal: President Bill Clinton is impeached by the United States House of Representatives. **December 21** Iraq disarmament crisis: UN Security Council members France, Germany and Russia call for sanctions to end against Iraq. **December 26** Iraq disarmament crisis: Iraq announces its intention to fire upon U.S. and British warplanes that patrol the northern and southern "no-fly zones". **December 26** Six sailors die and five yachts are lost in the Sydney to Hobart yacht race. The biggest disaster in the race's history. Jimmy Rogers loses his battle against cancer at the age of

of 74. The guitarist started his career as accompanist of blues legend Muddy Waters. He is greatly admired by Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page and Rolling Stones Keith Richards.

Do you have an E-mail address? Make sure forwarding it ! You will be assured of automatically receiving important updates/ the latest news on the Free Radio Service Holland.

This brandnew FRS QSL series features 29 Years of FRS-Holland. It was first issued to those responding on FRS' December 2008 broadcast and will be used in 2009 as well. 2009 marks 29 years of FRS-Holland.



NEW DEC.2008/ 2009 QSL

FRS Sales Productions

Order our booklet with hundreds of hours of recordings from Sea to Satellite. Send 2 IRCs or two Euro / two US dollar to the Herten maildrop. FRS Sales Productions offers SW Free Radio, Offshore Radio, satellite, Documentaries, Jingles, Landbased pirate radio but also legal stations from all over the world. We offer attractive discounts !

MAILBOX 2702 MAILBOX 2702

By Peter Verbruggen

First of all thanks to all listeners who responded to FRS' Dec. '08 broadcasts. In this Mailbox 2702 we *only* feature mail from that transmission. Time for some excerpts from the mail we received...

The first letter is from Ger-

many "Hallo liebes FRSH Team, as promised I've enclosed detailed reports for 6220 & 6400. Unfortunately I tuned in too late to catch 9770. My first QSL dates back to Jan. 16th 1983." I like the professional way in which the pxs are presented, its content and last but not least the well-chosen selection of music. Thank you Uwe Volk in Lehrte. BTW Uwe, your first QSL is from the broadcast we were raided!

Will Phillips comes from Nottingham, UK. He writes: "Unfortunately I was not able to listen to the whole of your px. Your pxs are always enjoyable to listen to. It is clear that a lot of time must go into putting them together. The DX Sections are certainly of interest. I enjoyed the recordings the German language show. I last sent you a report back in October 2000, it is no reflection on the quality of your pxs. I stopped listening to SW bands altogether for several years and have recently started again. It's good that you are still around" Thanks Will, hopefully this time you will stay tuned to our shows for many years to come!

"A couple of days ago I had the great pleasure to receive a trm from your SW station via a relay. Reception here at my QTH, just outside Nörrköping was very good with a minimum of interference. I heard the FR Update and got a lot of useful info for my column in a magazine for DX-ers here in Sweden. Next time it would be better if you skip the background music or at least keep it at a lower level. I have QSLs from some 300 stations. I also have a QSL from FRSH dated July 20th 1986 on 6205. I am a member of a local DX-club, we meet each 4th Saturday in our club house, situated in a forest enabling to erect beverage antennas with length between 400 and 700 metres. Very good, especially when it comes to medium wave reception." Claes Olsson, Norway wrote this interesting letter. Spread the FRS word among fellow members Claes and good luck with your club and

future DX-ing. Having such excellent opportunities makes us jealous...

We stay in Scandinavia and take a fast drive to Halmstad, Sweden, the home of 61 year old Christer Brunström, his profession is teacher. He tuned to FRSH with a professional AOR AR7030 receiver. "It really was quite exiting to hear your station here in far away Sweden. I have been interested in international radio since I was a young boy. I do monthly DX reports on Vatican Radio and radio station HCJB in Quito, Ecuador. I greatly appreciated your newsletter from December 2007." Thanks Christer and good luck with your work as a teacher and for both SW radio stations you mentioned.

Belgium is not a 'DX country' but so now and then we receive some mail from our southern neighbours. As far as we know Ge Huijbens from Beffe wrote his first letter to FRS. "Reception on 6220 was louder than 6400. I live in Beffe on the south-east of Belgium, about 100 kms south east of the town of Brussels. I am 59 and already DX for 47 years. Sinpo code 34433 on 6220"

Patrick Robic from Leibnitz, Austria has been interested in remote radio stations for 18 years. He's now 31 and writes that he had the great pleasure picking FRS up on his AOR receiver and an outdoor 12.5m magnetic long wire antenna.

Ralf Urbanczyk from Eisleben, Germany mentioned in his letter that reception on 6220 & 6400 was 'ziemlich verrauscht'. "I think that was mainly due to local disturbances like electrical devices." And: "I only use an indoor telescopic antenna. 9770 was superb, a very stable, clean and loud signal. I like FRSH because of the good mix of info and music. My last report dates back to september 1988." Thanks Ralf and hopefully we don't have to wait till 2028 for another letter....

"Dear FRS Friends, txs for your mails and especially for the very well produced seasonal broadcast which I partly heard on 6220. I also had the chance and pleasure to hear the first two hours of your internet repeat on January 4th 2009. I also tried 6400, with success. My listening location is Holte in Denmark, a community with some 32,000 people. It is a northern suburb of Copenhagen in a green area with many forests and lakes. Thank you very much Erik Koie for a detailed report and interesting letter. Keep on supporting us!

And that concludes Mailbox 2702 with a small selection of letters we received in December 2008.

October 2009 will see Free Radio Service Holland conducting tests on a number of freqs within the 41 mb. Keep an eye on the 7400-7700 spectrum including 7500 and 7600 kHz. Tests will be conducted Oct. 4th & 11th on at two different freqs.

December 2008 FRS-Holland received letters & mails from no less than 15 countries including the Netherlands, Denmark, France, Germany, Eire, UK, Austria, Finland, Japan, Sweden, Spain, USA, Belgium, Israel & Russia.

INVITATION

December 2009 FRS-Holland will continue a long time tradition. And that means we invite you- the listener- to participate. Forward your very own personal New Year Greetings to the Free Radio Service Holland and we will make sure it'll be read out during our Dec. 27th 2009 broadcast. You can dedicate your greetings to friends etc. but you can also make a 2010 wish. Greetings can be written on taped (cassette, CD, MD or MP3 file) and send to our P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten in the Netherlands. Of course *the easy & quick way* is by sending an e-mail:

<frs@frsholland.nl >. You can add something special to our December 27th broadcast by participating. So....what are you waiting for? Make sure your contribution reaches us at the latest November 28th. We are looking forward hearing from you !!! Tune on the 27th...it'll be great fun !!!

HISTORY of EUROPEAN SW RADIO

RADIO EUROPE INTERNATIONAL



part 1 *RADIO EUROPE INT.* By Ian Biggar

Starting this issue FRS News will be publishing a number of features related to the SW stations in the 1970s & 1980s. We are lucky to have a few contributors who were already active in SW free radio DX-ing in those days and thus are abl. to write a couple of interesting general articles and/or station portraits. Don't expect a series in chronicle order, it will be a collection of seperate stories reminiscing "the good old days".

One of the first stations I remember as a 12 year old Pirate Dxrer was Radio Europe International. At the time in late 1974 my receiver was simple Grundig portable, either a Concert Boy or Yacht Boy, I can't remember which, but the REI signal was always a powerhouse at my location in the West of Scotland. The station first signed on August 8th 1974 using 6225 kHz with test trms being pre recorded by the famous *Mike Knight* of Radio Jackie. After several weeks of tests the station officially started on September 29th 1974 at 13.02 UTC with *live programmes*. Presenters on the stations included Chris Patricks (OP), Robin Johns and Mark Roger. The latter was to become a good friend and broadcasting colleague of mine some 8 years later.

The station followed a pattern of fortnightly broadcasts on Sunday afternoons usually on 6225 kHz and always with live pxs. One feature of the station was the announcement of a telephone number in Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire to which listeners could give reception reports and have their name mentioned on air. This instant means of contact was *unusual* for a short wave pirate in those days and proved to be very successful. I can remember trying the number several times and getting a continual 'busy' tone. One listener said he he had tried 20 times, rang the operator who tried 11 times without any success. Such was the popularity of the station. Letters poured in to the mailing address in Havant, Hampshire from all over Europe. Despite using a mere 17 watts of power REI was providing good reception for most of those Dxers who wrote.

REI operated in conjunction with a station called Radio Copernicus who followed the same fortnightly schedule on 6235, but using a different transmitter and coming from mobile locations. This station followed a format of "Radio news, views and comment", as this would suggest the stations hour long programme was interesting listening for Pirate Dxers. REI usually signed on not long after Copernicus closed, no doubt in order to keep its listeners. I always remember that Radio Copernicus had quite a weak signal at my location, certainly confirming that different rigs were in use.

Obviously a station with good signals and a regular schedule was going to attract the attention of the authorities and REI was no exception. The station signed on as normal on November 24th with the usual good signal. I remember though that the signal on

that day was suffering from a lot of interference. REI then started frequency hopping to avoid what was now considered to be *intentional jamming*. Chris Patricks was heard to condemn the culprits live on air, but to no avail. According to the operators of REI this jamming was the responsibility of the GPO!

Ominously on December 1st the operator received phone calls at home, apparently from Post Office officials, trying to bribe him to go on air. The calls were timed at every three or four hours until midnight. Ofcourse the operator denied everything! However it was decided to take precautions for the next scheduled broadcast on December 8th and so a *mobile* transmission was planned using the Radio Copernicus rig. REI signed on at 11.50 UTC after the Copernicus programme. I remember that day being surprised because the signal was so weak compared with the previous weeks. It didn't take the authorities long to find the site and at 12.12 the station was raided by *eight (!)* Post Office men and one Policeman. After questioning they found the 17 watt transmitter, x-tals, cassette recorder and cassettes. Warrants were then obtained for both Op's homes in the search for evidence. At Chris Patrick's place nothing incriminating was found but the officials took photos of his studio, saying it wouldn't be there much longer! However at the Copernicus OP's house, listeners' letters were found and even floorboards were lifted to find evidence.

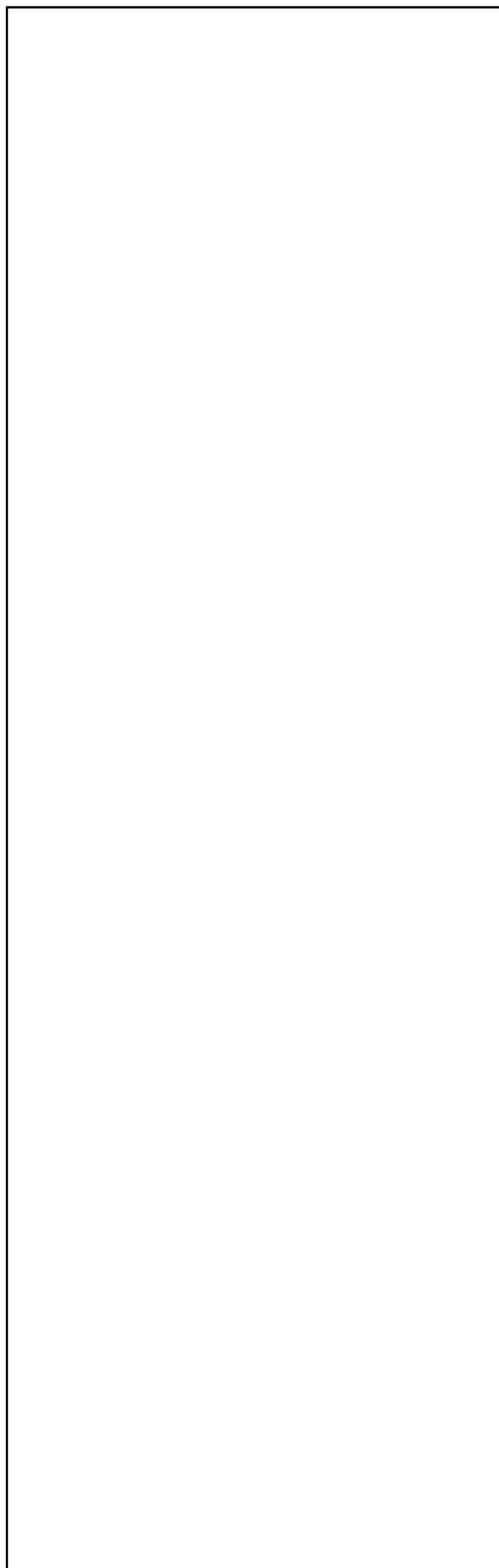
The court case was in March 1975 and amazingly enough no broadcast gear was confiscated, not even a cassette, but fines did total £ 275. It was planned to restart trms after the court case but various problems prevented this. REI did make it back for its *first Birthday show* on the 28th September 1975. The only other time I heard REI programmes was in September 1976 when the same old programme tapes were broadcast over *KOL Europe* as a tribute.

I remember Mark Roger, who some of you will know better as Paul Graham, telling me that he used to travel by train from his home in the Midlands up to South Yorkshire on a Saturday afternoon. After a few beers that night, get some sleep, up early for a hearty breakfast, then prepare for the REI broadcast. A pirates life was a happy one! Paul also remarked on the amazing amount of calls received for those broadcasts.

People talk of World Music Radio, ABC Europe, Valentine etc. when discussing the greats of SW pirate radio. Although it was short lived, for me Radio Europe Int. certainly is in there with the best.

compiled from information in Free Radio Focus & personal memories. Thanks to Joachim Tegeler & Francis Stalpers!

This storu was already published in FRS Goes DX 137 sept./oct. 1995.



Radio Stella from Scotland, remember Jock Wilson (6296//11415)/ Radio Dublin (6280-6910)/ Nordlicht radio (6299)/ Radio Brigitte (6536)/RWI/ Radio Marabu/ Radio Orang Utan/ Radio Mutiny/ Rocket 48/ Radio Geronimo/European Pirate radio/ WNKR/ Radio Mirage from Norway/ Radio Reflex/ LiveWire Radio/ Radio Gemini (pioneer)/ Radio ECC/ Radio Caldonia/ VotN/ PFBS Radio/ Radio Vanessa/ Ozone Radio/ Total Control radio/ Southern Mx Radio/ Voice of Germany/ Radio Zenith Int./Radio Titanic/ Radio Nolan. Ozone Radio Radio most Sun on 6280 operated by veteran broadcaster Prince Terry. Radio Dublin 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week on 6910 since Dec. 1st 1991. Dutch powerhouse Radio Reflex is a continuation of Radio Telstar using a well-known add in Ruurlo. RECC is very irregular on air and Marconi Radio testing Dec. 25th on 11390, pre-publicised by Dutch Media Network. X-Mas Radio 7590 Dec. 25/26 annual shows 08-14 hours/ nighttime 3883 kHz. BRI Sun Dec. 22nd 6232 via JRR. Boxing Day on 6232//7325. 7325 added because of TWR Monaco using 6230 11-1120 UTC. Radio Mi Amigo UK making its final regular trm Dec. 15th on 6400. Live Wire Radio made a number of US tests over X-Mas Season. Station was operated by Bill Lewis. WMR Scotland X-Mas broadcasts Dec. 25/26 7445 and 6297/6240. Radio Merlin was raided Dec. 23rd (second time> also in Oct.). The new 150 W tx was confiscated.

Fact File is a regular item in FRS News in which a particular month/ year is featured including general news, the Top 5s and radio news as well. Listening to FRS-Holland you can tune in to Peter Verbruggen's FRS Magazine featuring this item under the title 'Flashback to.....'.

FRS NEWS- A POTTED HISTORY

*This small newsletter was first published under the name **FRS Newsletter** in January 1993. After 14 editions, the name was changed to **FRS News**. That was in 1997. The FRS Newsletter was continued for subscribers only and its content changed from covering FRS-Holland only to emphasizing on Free Radio News in general. Where the FRS Newsletter ended, FRS News continued informing the listening audience with news from the Free Radio Service Holland. In the mean time the FRS Newsletter has been discontinued. After 7 years, the final edition # 39/40 was published December 2003. What is left is **FRS News** which will certainly continue as for us it is an important means of communication between FRS-Holland and you, the listener! Talking of communication or better: improving it...we regularly try to introduce fresh columns. Every new edition, we'll publish a collection of the letters/ e-mails we received via our Herten "2702" maildrop or <frs@frsholland.nl>/ <frs.holland@frsholland.nl>. We feel that's a good idea. Send us your opinion and ideas. So far response has been very encouraging. So: thank you to all of you who sent in (positive) comments. In addition in each issue we will go back in time with a flashback to a particular month/year including one of our broadcasts, SW news etc. This item is also included in future editions of **FRS Magazine** presented by Peter Verbruggen. Any ideas which might benefit FRS News are more than welcome!*

The December 2007 Competition

In December we ran a competition in which we gave five clues referring at Free Radio stations on SW. The correct answers were: 1=European Music Radio / 2=Radio Gloria / 3=Weekend Music Radio / 4= Radio Brigitte 5= Radio Joystick. The winners are **Norbert Scheel from Berlin and Michael Geisel from Pfullingen**. Both had 4 out of 5 questions correct (2,3,4 & 5) and both mentioned as number 1 Radio Jackie. Coincident or not: Radio Jackie is a legendary station going legal these days which even broadcasted on SW so now and then.... Winners may choose a 90 minute CD studio recording from FRS-Holland archive.

